Getting Techie with the Computing Commons

Library Services is proud to announce that there are now Computing Commons locations on the Daytona, DeLand and ATC campuses. The Computing Commons is a dedicated area meant to serve our diverse college student community by providing access to computer resources and technical support from our full-time staff and highly trained Work-Study Tech Assistants.

The purpose of the Daytona State College Computing Commons is to support the mission and goals of the college’s Library and Learning Commons, whose mission is “to create a cooperative environment offering direct referrals that will foster student success, enhance faculty support, and provide the services and resources needed to promote college-wide teaching and learning” to the Daytona State College community.

The Computing Commons provides a wide range of information technology tools and resources, including computer labs, iPads and Netbooks for check out, course-specific software and study space with plenty of outlets for mobile devices. Learn more by visiting www.daytonastate.edu/commons.

Spotlights on the Computing Commons Student Support Techs

Anavid Crespo is pursuing her Associate of Arts degree and will graduate this spring. Since attending DSC, Anavid has earned the Dean’s List award several times. She plans to attend the University of South Florida and earn her Bachelor of Science in Heath Science degree and later will pursue doctoral degree in Physical Therapy. Anavid has excellent computer skills from taking courses on the Microsoft Office Suite. She has worked in the Computing Commons since summer 2014 and is a valuable asset to the DeLand Computing Commons. She’s passionate about helping people, and feels that if she can help students in the smallest way, she’s making a difference.

Alexander Heise is completing his Bachelor of Science in Engineering Technology degree and expects to transfer to the University of Central Florida for the fall 2015 term to continue his bachelor’s in Engineering. Alex started attending DSC in 2010 as a dual enrolled student. He has worked for the Computing Commons since the beginning of 2014. He believes that increased access to technology and digital content has allowed for a more united society, stating, “A lot of technology now either connects to or is a part of the Internet, which allows for a more connected and open world.”

Melisse Marheine is completing her Bachelor of Science in Information Technology degree and has been a Computing Commons technician since fall 2014. She expects to finish her bachelor’s degree this fall. Once completed, Melisse plans to continue her education at Georgia Tech to earn a master’s degree in Computer Science. Loving all things techy, she recommends the website the Microsoft Virtual Academy, which contains a vast array of computer science tutorials and is a fantastic choice for most tech-related subjects.
Florencia Navarro has worked in the DeLand Computing Commons since summer 2014. She is pursuing an Associate Arts degree and will graduate this summer. She plans to attend UCF to earn a bachelor’s degree in Computer Engineering. Florencia loves technology and is fascinated by how far it has emerged, in particular, how it has advanced medicine.

Benjamin Soltren is enrolled in the Bachelor of Science in Information Technology degree program, with an expected summer 2015 graduation date. In 2012, he completed an Associate of Science in Computer Engineering Technology degree with honors, along with A.S. certifications in Information Technology Support Specialist, Network Support Technician, Computer Specialist, Microcomputer Repairer/Installer and Information Technology Analysis. As the most seasoned Commons tech, Ben began working occasional shifts in the library since August 2012. Ben feels like students would benefit the most from using cloud technology, stating, “I personally like Microsoft OneDrive because it’s free and it provides 15GB of storage space. There are many other benefits from using this type of service and working in the library where we see many students leaving behind or forgetting their flash drives connected to the computers. A cloud service is an excellent solution to never lose your work again because you forgot where you left your flash drive.”

The Daytona State College Learning Commons is committed to staying abreast of current technology and achieving positive change and learning outcomes through the circulation of iPads. Any current DSC or UCF student, staff or faculty with a photo ID may check out an iPad for a 4-hour loan period from the Library circulation desk. Stop by either the Daytona or DeLand campus library to test-drive an iPad today!

To learn more, visit [www.daytonastate.edu/cwc/techcirc.html](http://www.daytonastate.edu/cwc/techcirc.html).

Library Book Displays

As a fun way to engage with the community and promote print resources, the Library has developed monthly book displays to help exhibit and highlight our book collection. These displays provide current and relevant resources to the DSC community based on student interests, upcoming events and local activities. Melinda Cascioli, a senior library media technician, oversees the vision and creation of our book displays. She says, “One of my favorite duties is designing the display case, [because] this enables me to use my creativity, my love of books and my teaching skills.”

Below we’ve spotlighted some of Melinda’s favorite displays:

Not Just Puppy Love Pet Food/Supply Drive for the Halifax Humane Society, February 2014
Animal lovers welcomed! This display benefited our local pet food banks by accepting donations and creating awareness.

iPads @ the Learning Commons

iPads are now available for DSC and UCF students, staff and faculty at the Daytona and DeLand campuses. Eight iPads are available at the Daytona Beach Learning Commons, and five iPads are available at the DeLand Learning Commons. These fourth-generation iPads operate on the most current version of Apple’s iOS and are Wi-Fi enabled to access the FalconSecure network.
Banned Book Display, September 2014

A national event that is often one of the most interactive and engaging displays done at the DSC Library, this display promotes the freedom to read anything. Learn more about this important event by visiting our Banned Books Research Guide http://researchguides.daytonastate.edu/bannedbooks.

World Travel and Culture Display, October 2014

A display that highlighted books promoting the love of language, culture and travel. Other fun features included country flags, greetings from many languages, images of traditional dress for different cultures and 3D puzzles of famous architectural structures from around the world.

Black History Month, February 2015

Founded in 1915, National Black History Month in February celebrates the contributions that African Americans have made to American history, along with in the struggle for freedom and equality, deepening our understanding of our nation's history. Learn more by visiting our Black History Month Research Guide: http://researchguides.daytonastate.edu/BlackHistoryMonth.

Melinda is happy and grateful to use her creativity with something that provides such meaning to her and the DSC Library, students, staff, faculty and community. She, along with all of our staff, encourages everyone to stop by and visit their local library.

Learning Commons Helps Teach English Studios

The Learning Commons and School of Humanities and Communication recently teamed up to design and implement the English Studio (ENC0055L), which supports students taking ENC1101 and helps them gain proficiency in the reading, writing and critical thinking skills needed for success in ENC1101 and beyond. Students are recommended based on their academic record and available test scores. These classes meet one hour per week, and most of them are facilitated by ASC learning specialists and CWC writing specialists.

Liz Barnes, assistant chair of the School of Humanities and Communication, said, “The Developmental Education Reform mandated by the Florida Legislature presented a high-stakes challenge to open enrollment institutions all over the state. At Daytona State College we have been able to meet this challenge with a great degree of measurable success because of the high quality student support infrastructure that was already in place. From a faculty perspective, working with staff in the Learning Commons has been a great experience. Academic Support Center and Writing Center administration, staff and faculty in the School of Humanities and Communication have been working together for over a year, creating a functional studio model that has already had a positive impact on student success. The English Studio program we have implemented here will continue to change and grow, and because of the dynamic working relationship we have with each other here on campus, I look forward to new challenges.”
Fresh Look for 500

The Daytona Baker Academic Support Center is looking pretty spiffy these days! Thanks to a well-written proposal for Student Activities funds, the ASC has new collaborative seating areas for students to gather and study. The brand new tables, chairs, mobile whiteboards, document cameras and portable projectors have made a great impact with the students. Everyone seems to be really happy about the changes. Coordinator Rachel Wendt notes, “In building 500, there wasn’t a space where people could bring their own technology. There also wasn’t a space for collaboration.” This need was met head-on by the ASC’s Space Design team led by Adriana Paiva. This new, open-use space is inviting, comfortable and will include a student art wall. Adriana added that she chose the furniture based on the functionality of the space and looked back on her days as a DSC student when making decisions. She said, “I wanted to create an inviting, mobile space for our students where they can get their academic work done.”

Initial data indicates that the studios were a great success:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Intervention</th>
<th>ENC1101</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Unsuccessful</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SLS122 Only</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENC0055L &amp; SLS1101</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENC0055L Only</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SLS1101 Only</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>None</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A student survey was given at the end of the course. Feedback was encouraging. One student wrote, “The English Studio for me was great. I would recommend it for first-time-in-college students. My instructor was very helpful and I learned a lot, not only about reading and writing and other skills, but also some things that you wouldn’t normally learn in a typical classroom.”
KUDOS & THANKS

Congratulations to Rachel Wendt for her recent promotion from Senior Learning Specialist to Coordinator II of the Academic Support Center. Her responsibilities include collaborating with the School of Mathematics for the implementation of labs and academic support, supervising full-time staff and student workers in the Baker ASC, and coordinating ASC programs, activities and projects, among other things. Said Rachel, “I have really enjoyed the challenges this new leadership role has given me. I hope I can continue to help showcase the ASC as an essential resource for DSC students. I love to help students succeed and am proud to be part of the fabulous team that helps students do just that.”

Congratulations to Erin Scott on her promotion to Senior Learning Specialist at the New Smyrna Beach-Edgewater Campus where she supervises several student workers and one learning specialist. Erin said, “As a senior learning specialist at New Smyrna, I am working with the faculty and staff to provide the best support for our students, who are often dually enrolled at the high school across the street or are non-traditional students returning to school.”

Congratulations to Beata Kozlowski on her recent promotion to Senior Library Media Technician as the DSC Library’s Copy Cataloger. Beata says, “I’m tremendously excited about the opportunity to fill the copy cataloging position at the DSC Library and welcome any and all opportunities for learning and advancement within the DSC Library and Learning Commons! As I work towards the completion of my Masters of Library Science degree from Florida State University, I’m excited to apply the knowledge I’ve been studying in my courses.”

New Staff

Max Swanton
Max is a proud alumnus of Daytona State. As an undergraduate, Max held a work-study position as a peer tutor and supplemental instruction leader for college and Intermediate Algebra at the New Smyrna Beach-Edgewater Campus. After receiving his Bachelor of Applied Science in Supervision and Management degree last May, Max got married and relocated to Ormond Beach. Max's future plans involve his thrilling new career as a learning specialist in the Learning Commons and earning a graduate degree in Mathematics Education. When he’s not helping students tap into their inner scholars, he’s furthering his own education, quoting obscure 80s movies, or slow dancing with his new wife.

Loren Cooper
Loren returned to the DSC-UCF Writing Center as a full-time writing specialist in August 2014, but his history here goes back to his time as a student when in 2010 he joined the newly-formed College Writing Center as a work-study peer tutor. After graduating Daytona State in 2011, Loren attained his Bachelor of Arts in English at Stetson University, where he continued his focus on writing center pedagogy and practice, and where he currently is seeking his Master of Arts in English Literature. Loren most enjoys watching 1940s era film noir and fiction, ballroom dancing with his border collie mix, Bogey, and thoroughly indoctrinating his two brilliant sons with science and Doctor Who.

Kyle Blochl
Before starting at the DSC-UCF Writing Center in 2014, Kyle worked at Appalachian State University’s writing center in North Carolina for five years. Kyle also earned his Bachelor of Science in Secondary English Education and his Master of Arts in Instructional Technology: Educational Media/Media Literacy at Appalachian State University. He said he may pursue further education in the future. Although he has worked in various educational settings, Kyle has enjoyed working in writing centers the most and seeks to be further involved in the writing center community.
Jess joined the Writing Center staff in September 2014. She studied English Language and Literature at Penn State University, where she completed her bachelor’s degree, and West Virginia University, where she completed her master’s degree. She worked as a writing tutor at Penn State and WVU, and as a composition instructor at WVU. Her research interests include non-traditional students in the writing center and writing as therapy. She moved to Florida from western Pennsylvania and loves it. She is no longer the only person in her circle to not say “yinz.” Aside from the stereotypical English teacher hobbies of reading and writing, Jess enjoys distance running and mastering new things. Her current thing to master is golf because, well, it’s Florida.

Anne Thrower joined the Academic Support Center in October, working primarily in Bldg. 210. She earned her Master of Arts in Journalism from Louisiana State University and a Master of Arts in Community College Education with a business emphasis from Northern Arizona University. However, she is most proud of the associate degree she received from Delta College in Michigan. Anne is a former community college instructor in Arizona and a business teacher in Australia. Prior to moving to Daytona Beach, she worked as a reporter for several daily newspapers in the Southeast and taught journalism classes as an adjunct at Murray State University in Kentucky. She previously worked at Daytona State College as a retention specialist. In her free time, Anne likes to spend time with friends, talking and laughing over a delicious meal or enjoying a good movie. She also likes weekend getaways and day trips.

Film Review - A Certain Magic Wand

Cultivating fully educated students and why keeping art classes in school matters

The Learning Commons highly recommends A Certain Magic Wand by DSC faculty member and documentary filmmaker, Eric Breitenbach, and art educator, Kathy Maloney Johnson. Breitenbach recorded fourteen hours of classroom footage of Johnson's K-8 grade art classroom at St. Peter Catholic School in DeLand, FL. The roughly 20 minute documentary examines the role of the arts in elementary school education and connects the value of working with tactile objects and developing creative problem solving skills with other disciplines like traditional STEM courses. In one scene, while the viewer watches the children intently absorbed in their art assignment, we hear Johnson’s voice saying that, in the “olden days,” art was part of an educated person’s complete education, emphasizing the importance of a well-rounded curriculum and the detrimental impact that losing these practiced skills would have on the harder sciences.
“The film is a work of activism,” said Breitenbach. “For many years the arts have been pushed aside in favor of other disciplines...It’s only when concepts from other fields are explored through art (the observational skills involved in drawing, for example, are the same as those required in the sciences) that learning happens at the highest possible level.”

The film will screen in a variety of venues, including academic symposiums, libraries, special interest groups and film festivals. Additionally, Breitenbach has submitted the documentary for broadcast on the local PBS station. If you are interested in having a screening for a group, please contact Eric Breitenbach, 386-506-3542 or breitee@daytonastate.edu.

**IWCA Poster Session**

Kudos to Writing Center Director Rebecca Block, UCF Writing Center Director Mark Hall, DSC English faculty Jessica Kester and Elizabeth Barnes for presenting a poster at last October’s IWCA-NCP TW Conference in Orlando. “Reimagining Writing Centers as Dynamic Networks” looked at how a writing center is connected to the students, staff and faculty of an institution. The poster included questions that writing center professionals should consider when thinking of how their centers serve their larger college communities.

**Reimagining Writing Centers as Dynamic Networks**

Rebecca Block (Daytona State College), Mark Hall (University of Central Florida), Jessica Kester (DSC), Elizabeth Barnes (DSC)

**Perspectives to consider**

“If we want our program to continue, we have to serve this audience of faculty and writers well. Yes, ‘serve.’ I no longer shirk the language of service” (Essidy, 3).

“Despite their diversity, most real networks share an essential feature: growth. Pick any network you can think of and the following will likely be true: Starting with a few nodes, it grew incrementally through the addition of new nodes, gradually reaching its current size...how does growth generate complexity, reflexivity, contradiction, ambivalence, redundancy, affect, and other features in emerging ways? (Rice 132)

“How can we rethink a model based on connections and linkages rather than on individual identities (as English itself and its areas of thought still propose to be)? How can we study and write with the nodes which shape complex modes of experience, nodes that are, as well, shifting with each connection and breakage they make? These are questions for a new definition of English studies? Rice, 132).
Penguin Awards

Kristen Davis (Library)

“In the workplace you quickly learn who you can always count on and in the Library that is Kristen. In sports you would call her a ‘clutch player.’ She is always willing to pitch in. She is always willing to take on the extra shift or class. She is always willing to do whatever it takes to get the job done. She doesn’t toot her own horn, so this is three toots for Kristen!”

Joy Bancroft (WC)

“Joy is constantly focused on providing assistance to anyone who approaches her with a problem, whether it be a student, co-worker or complete stranger; she is dedicated to assisting anyone who crosses her path, with outstanding professional service and a genuine concern for any qualms they might have.”

Dana Davidson (ASC)

“Dana has recently moved into a supervisor position for the ASC 210, the second largest ASC at DSC, and has been doing a phenomenal job. She is a fair, honest and friendly person to have as a boss and co-worker, and is an asset to our student body.”